

Cohasset Marine

vol. I, no. 45

thursday, august 16, 1979

2 Sections

97501
Paul Pratt Memorial
Attn: Richard E. Pratt
406 South Main St.
Cohasset, Ma. 02024

Last...



LAST LOOK — This is how St. Anthony's Church looked just before demolition razed the ancient structure . . .

St. Anthony's Of Old Falls To Demolition This Week

Old St. Anthony's Church on South Main Street is being demolished this week. Razed and filled to grade — those are the official terms that attempt to sterilize a condemned and unused building, yet they fail to do so this time.

The church will be remembered for its century-old history, its lovely gables and spire, and its extraordinary stained-glass windows which had been donated to the church by parishioners. The windows, statues, and wooden pews were dismantled before the Duane Company of Quincy moved in its demolition equipment. Only the carcass of the church remained early this week — after the solemn dismemberment — but the building's life and spirit will go on.

The church was used until 1963, said Rev. John Keohane, pastor of St. Anthony's, when the new church was built down the street on the corner of South Main and Summer Streets. After sharing its shelter with people

from Cohasset and surrounding towns for almost 100 years, the church's history deserves an historical remembrance.

According to Bertram Pratt's "History of Cohasset," the beginnings of the Roman Catholic Church in Cohasset is tied closely to one of the most tragic happenings in town history — the destruction of the Irish immigrant ship "Sant John" off the coast. A Father Roddan of Quincy read prayers for the deceased of the vessel; Father Roddan returned to Cohasset again to celebrate Mass in the Town Hall for the Catholics of Cohasset.

"The account of Catholic parochial progress in Cohasset shows that Rev. Hugh P. Smyth, pastor of the Hingham Parish, celebrated Mass and conducted devotions in the Brennock home at the Cove, for several years.

Father Smyth was aided in his efforts by Catholics of Irish descent, as well as those of Portuguese origin," Pratt

states. Their combined efforts finally resulted in the erection of the church in 1875. The church was under the patronage of Saint Anthony of Padua, the patron saint of lost articles.

"In 1886 Saint Anthony's Parish was set off from Saint Paul's Parish in Hingham. The parish lines were to embrace the towns of Cohasset, Marshfield, and Scituate. Rev. Michael J. Phelan was appointed parish priest in 1886, and was succeeded the following year by Rev. Ignatius Egan. During Father Egan's pastorate the church was enlarged and a rectory across the street from the church was purchased," Pratt's account read.

A chapel for the summer residents was erected in 1903 at Minot by Rev. William McDonough. Father Egan's successor, Father McDonough also saw three young men from his parish ordained to the priesthood.

(turn to page 10)

EMTs At The Ready For Any Emergencies

Have you ever worried what would happen if you or someone in your family fell ill or had a terrible accident?

How soon would help arrive? What kind of treatment would be administered on the way to the hospital? These may be questions everyone wonders about, but dismisses as things that happen to other people.

Whether they happen to you or not, townspeople of Cohasset can rest assured that the Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) of the Fire Department, will assist at the scene of any physical distress, no matter the nature, within three minutes of a call to the station and continue support procedures until further medical treatment can be reached.

Ambulance Coordinator Richard Connolly of the Fire Department said that 12 of the 28 full-time firefighters in Cohasset are trained as EMTs. The EMT status, though distinct, is not separate from the position of firefighter. "We are firefighters first, going with a mission in mind to fight fires," Connolly said, but noted that an ambulance and engine responds to all calls. This practice provides a minimum of four men — two of these EMT — at any scene.

The modular ambulance acquired in 1977 with money appropriated by Town Meeting, established the Fire Department as the headquarters for the EMT service. Previously an ambulance had been shared between the Fire and Police Departments. The new ambulance arrives first before engines when calls come in to the fire station, while radio communication is kept with the Police Department, and with all neighboring Fire Departments. Connolly hopes for close hospital communication with the ambulance in the future.

(turn to page 2)

Drama Workshop Presents "Knock, Knock"

The Summer Company of the Cohasset Drama Workshop under the direction of Ron Emmons will present Jules Feiffer's successful Broadway comedy "Knock, Knock" on August 17 and 18 at Cohasset High School.

This is the second production of the season for the group, which earlier presented Feiffer's "Hold Me!" in conjunction with the South Shore Art Festival. The Summer Company was organized to give Drama Workshop members still in high school a chance to work with and learn

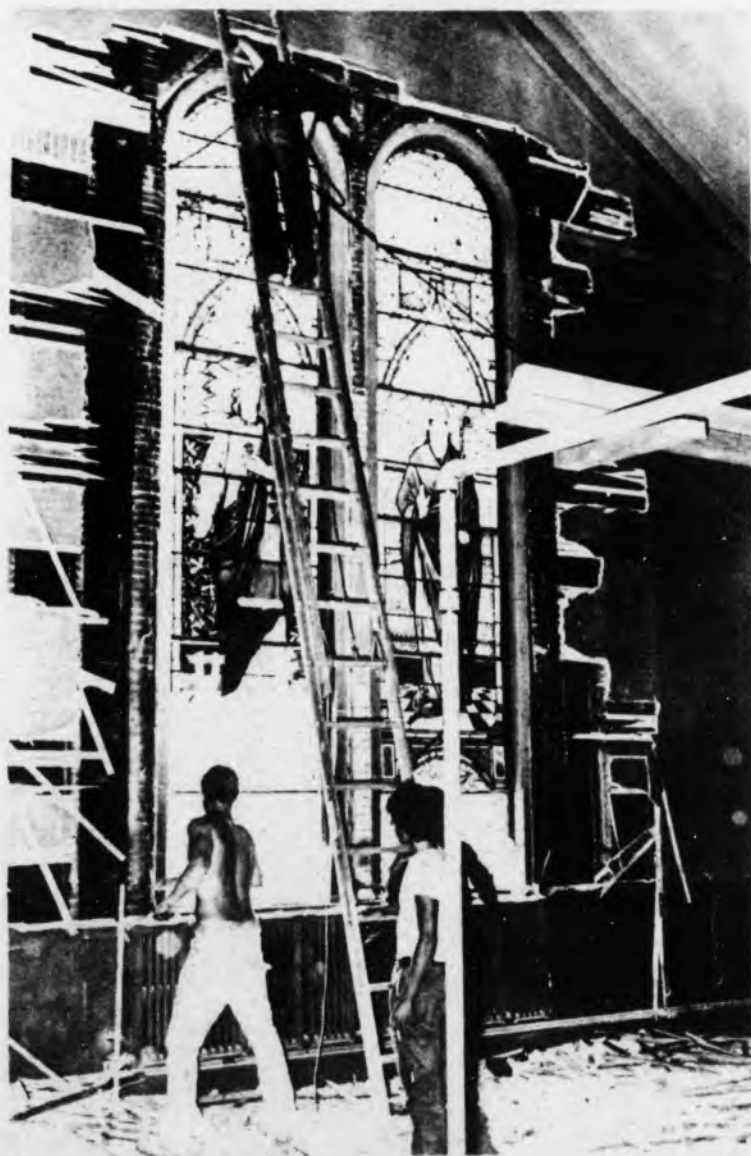
from graduates who have continued work in theatre and also to offer these alumni the opportunity to continue to sharpen their skills and gain more experience.

Written with the inspired lunacy of the inimitable Jules Feiffer, "Knock, Knock" is a comic fairy tale gone wild, rocketing with bizarre happenings and impudent word-play.

In a seedy cabin in the woods, Cohn and Abe have shared a secluded bachelor existence for more than 20

(turn to page 3)

...Hurrah



...and part of the work involved the delicate job of removing valuable stained glass windows.

[Greg Derr photos]